

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Noriyuki UMEZAWA et al.  
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND FIXING  
DEVICE  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 07/08/2003  
Examiner: H. Ngo  
Art Unit: 2852

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the U.S. PTO in parent application Serial No. 10/316,046, filed 12/11/2002. As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified parent application.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

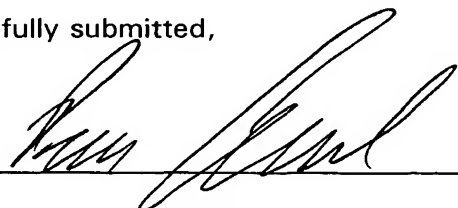
The relevance of the foreign-language documents is explained in the parent application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Pavan K. Agarwal  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 40,888

Date July 8, 2003

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428



22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 945-6162

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  Date Submitted: July 8, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	12/11/2002
				First Named Inventor	Noriyuki UMEZAWA
				Group Art Unit	2852
				Examiner Name	H. Ngo
				Attorney Docket Number	016907-1451

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A1	5,794,096		OKABAYASHI	08-11-1998	
	A2	6,006,151		TOMITA et al.	12-21-1999	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	A3	JP	9-258586			10-03-1997		
	A4	JP	59-33476			02-23-1984		
	A5	JP	10-302954		CANON KK	11-13-1998		
	A6	JP	57-46258		RICOH CO. LTD.	03-16-1982		
	A7	JP	10-333489		CANON KK	12-18-1998		
	A8	JP	10-186935		CANON KK	07-14-1998		
	A9	JP	11-126678			05-11-1999		
	A10	JP	11-143269		MINOLTA CAMERA KK	05-28-1999		
	A11	JP	63-168989		CANON KK	07-12-1988		
	A12	JP	4-372977		FUJI XEROX CO. LTD.	12-25-1992		
	A13	JP	58-105180		FUJI XEROX CO. LTD.	06-22-1983		
	A14	JP	56-144469		RICOH CO. LTD.	11-10-1981		
	A15	JP	10-301442			11-13-1998		
	A16	JP	10-254306		FUJI XEROX CO. LTD.	09-25-1998		

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.